

Leadership Thoughts...

Why do YOU exist...what's your real purpose?

In my last update I wrote about the importance of checking our motives by asking ourselves *why we do what we do* – especially before embarking upon any leadership journey. I also challenged you to make certain that *why you do what you do* aligns with the more important *why* question – *WHY are you here on this earth?* This is the question that truly lies at the heart of hearts of your leadership and is where you will ultimately find the answer to what it means to be your BEST in leadership and in life.

So why are you here on this earth? Although countless books and articles attempt to go deep into the philosophy, physiology, psychology, and even theology of the reason for our existence, I much prefer the simple approach of seeking the truth of the matter from the very source of our existence – God. So why are you here?

1. God created you in His image and for His glory (Gen. 1:27) (He does have that right, by the way).
2. Relationship is central to His image (Gen 2:15, John 3:16, John 14) (He loves you and wants you to love him).
3. We bring glory to Him by following what His son clarified and simplified for us as the greatest commandment: LOVE GOD and OTHERS as YOURSELF (Mark 12:29-31, John 15:9-17).

Now, I realize there's a lot more to understanding what it means to live out your purpose in this life than simply accepting these truths. However, unless you start here and build upon these truths as the foundation from which to lead and live by, you will never be the BEST that you were created to be. It really is THAT simple. Your gifts, talents, passions, and dreams are all secondary to the relationships that God created you for. So, despite the fact this goes against most conventional teaching on the subject of achieving success and being the best that you can be – it is TRUTH.

My challenge to you as a leader is this, make it a habit to ask yourself *why you do what you do*, and seek God's help, and the help of those closest to you to find the truth in this answer. But even more importantly, make it your commitment to align each and every motive in your life with the greater WHY of your existence – the relationships God created you for. Remember, any pursuit that comes at the expense of the foundation of your true purpose is less than your BEST!

UPDATE on the Journey:

On the heels of one of my favorite holidays, I think it's only fitting that, as part of my update, I take just a few moments to acknowledge some of the things I am most thankful for regarding the *LEAD...for God's Sake!* Journey.

First, and foremost, I'm thankful for new friends. I've had the wonderful opportunity to not only meet lots of great people along the way, but to forge some incredible new friendships. I am in awe of the many friends who have come along side of me in this journey with a deep desire to help share the message of LFGS, while also helping me do the same through their encouragement, support, and most importantly, their prayers!

Of course, I'm also thankful for the continued faithfulness of God's hand at work through the LFGS message. Although stories of high profile leaders like Urban Meyer, Jim Tressel and Lou Holtz being impacted

are exciting for me to be a part of, it's the stories of Dad's or Mom's reconciling with their families, coaches refocusing on their *true purpose* for coaching, and business and church leaders reevaluating their motives and their priorities, that truly make this journey one of indescribable peace and joy!

So in the spirit of the season, I say thanks – not only to God for all of His incredible work in this journey, but thanks to YOU for all you have done to encourage me, and to help me share this message with others.

My Very BEST to you for a wonderful Christmas Season!

-Todd